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For immediate release: April 2, 2007

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KHPA releases statement following passage of health reform bill

The following is a statement from Marci Nielsen, PhD, MPH, Executive Director of Kansas Health Policy Authority, regarding the passage of SB 11 in the Kansas House which creates a premium assistance program, gives direction for health reform in the future, and establishes an inspector general position:

"Today, I am thrilled that both the Senate and House recognized the importance of providing health coverage to Kansans, and working together, we are one step closer in the mile-long race to providing access to quality and affordable health care to all Kansans. We remain optimistic the Governor will sign this bill into law, and we will get to work on a long-term plan that will greatly reduce, even more so than today's actions, the number of uninsured in Kansas.

"The Health Policy Authority and its Board look forward to working with the Governor, Legislature, and stakeholders to continue to make advances in health reform and bringing a larger plan to the Legislature in 2008."

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